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| I hereby certify under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a) that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to Examiner Alana Harris, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated above, at the following facsimile number: (703) 872-9306. | |
| Janet D'Annunzio-Ellis Printed name of person transmitting facsimile | Signature of person transmitting facsimile |

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Serial No.:

Vollmers and Mueller-

Art Unit:

1642

Hermelink

09/469,606

Examiner:

Alana M. Harris

Filed:

December 22, 1999

Customer

21559

No.:

Title:

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Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMUNICATION REGARDING INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants draw the Examiner's attention to the Supplemental Information

Disclosure Statement ("IDS") and Form PTO-1449 mailed on January 22, 2004.

Applicants' file does not reflect that the Form PTO-1449 that accompanied this IDS was returned with an indication that the cited references were considered by the USPTO.

Applicants respectfully request that the Form PTO-1449 be returned to Applicants with such indication. If there are any charges or any credits, please apply them to Deposit Account No. 03-2095.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

ristina Bicker-Brady

Reg. No. \$9,10

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